

Murray Arts Advisory Board
Minutes for April 20, 2010

Attendance: Mary Black, Mildred Horton, Jennifer Davies, Sharon Whitney, Judy Baxendale, Mary Ann Kirk (staff)

Excused: Jon Madsen, Wendi Miller

1. Minutes for March 16, 2010 were approved as written.
2. Upcoming activities were reviewed including the Juried Art show and Shakespeare Festival. The secondary art show featured 124 entries from both high schools and Riverview. It was a very good show. Hillcrest forgot about the event so they didn't participate.
3. Mary Ann and Jen met with Leesa Lloyd about a potential RDT collaboration with the secondary schools and possibly an elementary classroom. They have a grant for a green mapping project that has an environmental theme. We are hoping to create a dance that could be performed at the high school spring dance concert and at the Jordan River as part of Arbor Day in April next year. Jen wondered if we could have a contest to encourage good choreography.
4. The city has asked the departments to identify areas in the budget that could possibly be cut for next year. They are looking at staffing increases over the past 20 years. The arts and museum staffing are both new since then. But the bulk of the work is done by volunteers. Mary Ann said her preference would be to cut the amount we pay for facilities for the other groups but only if all community groups have to pay for their facilities. Board members agreed everyone should be treated the same. Mary Ann noted that many programs have no revenue source such as the competitions and the daytime summer concerts although we apply some of our grants to these activities. We could charge an entry fee for our competitions but that will bring in very little revenue. The recreation groups have been asked to raise their revenue which means fee increases. Mary Ann didn't feel like we could raise ticket prices any further. Nearly half of our schools are Title I schools which means their families are struggling financially. If we raise prices, it could prevent access to our programs. Without positive activities for kids, the city could be paying more for crime related issues. Board members were concerned about large families. Sharon felt that Murray has been so unique because it offers affordable activities for its residents.
5. Board members discussed a different location for the Performing Arts Center. The city now owns the Hoffman building and the property along 4800 South and State Street. This purchase could be applied to the county requirement for 10% of the total project in order to apply for arts facility funding. Mary was concerned about parking. Mary Ann said the city is planning to build a parking structure on this block. Board members thought this would be a great visible location.
6. The meeting in May needs to be adjusted for a conflict. May 25 was discussed but several had conflicts. May 19 was a possibility. Mary Ann will email those who are absent to see if that may work. The Boards and Commission Dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, June 16 at Murray Park and will follow with a preview of Annie.